Lee County Traditional Learning for 2020-2021

Lee County Schools plans to open the doors to welcome students on August 12, 2020. Traditional learning is for any student who has not been committed to the Virtual Classroom Option by signed intent form. Lee County Schools is following the guidance issued by the Alabama State Department of Education, the Alabama Department of Public Health, and is in regular consultation with local health officials. Lee County Schools is committed to providing safe, supportive, equitable environments. To the extent feasible, we will make accommodations to lessen the risk of exposure to any infectious disease. Please recognize that as conditions change, so may the protocols for traditional learning change.

We are focused upon three critical areas: wellness, operations and facilities, and delivery of instruction. In each of these areas, we have devised, been issued, or been provided: essential expectations such as governmental order, guidance of researched-based best practice, or considerations from practical experience.

The first point of screening and preventing the spread of infection is in the home. Parents and families should be able to identify symptoms and keep students at home if any of these symptoms are evident.

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Cough, runny nose, or sinus congestion
- Trouble breathing or persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- Abdominal pain or stomach ache
- Diarrhea or vomiting

The second point of prevention is incorporating practical guidelines in our daily practices. The use of facial coverings, physical distancing, proper personal hygiene, and cleaning can all be used to mitigate the spread COVID-19. The greatest risk of infection occurs when people are within close contact with an individual who is infected. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer. A non-inclusive list of protocols that we are considering include:
WELLNESS

- Recommended use of facial coverings for all faculty and staff
- Recommended use of facial coverings for students
- Highly recommended use of facial coverings for students riding school bus and in areas in which 6 feet of spacing is not feasible
- Hygiene practices to include frequent hand washing, cover coughs and sneezes

OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

- Regularly clean high traffic areas
- Eliminate large gatherings
- Restructure class exchange
- Restructure child nutrition program
- Restructure traffic throughout buildings and hallways
- Restrict access to buildings for essential personnel and students only

INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY

- Incorporating the use of Google Classroom in all areas
- Providing a Chromebook device to each student
- Incorporating consistent communication platforms across all schools
- Development of a plan to continue education and delivery of instruction on a daily basis in the event of an extended absence due to isolation, quarantine, or temporary closure.